

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE  
 1100 PENTAGON DRIVE  
 WASHINGTON, D.C. 20310  
 TELEPHONE (202) 697-5000  
 FAX (202) 697-5000  
 MAIL ROOM (202) 697-5000  
 JAN 14 1963

United States Senate  
 COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

Cuba -  
 (Drafting)

March 15, 1963

General Maxwell D. Taylor  
 Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff  
 The Pentagon  
 Washington 25, D. C.

Dear General Taylor:

This letter is written at the direction of Senator Stennis in furtherance of the telephone conversation which he had with you this morning.

The report which he desires would include a discussion of the following topics:

- a. A description of the Communist (Cuban and Soviet) military posture in Cuba, including a description of the Cuban organization and the Soviet organization as to composition, strengths and combat ability. It should also include an analysis of the Communist capability to threaten or attack the United States or its possessions, their present and probable future capability to interfere with the interests and activities of the United States in the Caribbean area, and their capability to militarily interfere with or influence the Central and South American nations.
- b. A description of how the above capabilities would be affected if and when the Soviet units should be withdrawn.
- c. A discussion of the effect of the presence of Soviet units on a possible insurrection against Castro's government and the prospects of the success of such an insurrection.
- d. An estimate of the rearrangement of U.S. forces which will be required as a consequence of the continued presence of Soviet units in Cuba and that which will be required if the Soviet units depart.
- e. An estimate as clearly as possible, without going into operational plans, of the nature, size, demands upon available United States forces, and the probable duration of the United States effort in the event an invasion of Cuba becomes necessary.

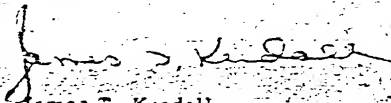
DETERIORATING ORIGINAL XEROXED BY THE  
 KENNEDY LIBRARY

General Maxwell D. Taylor

March 15, 1963

Senator Stennis has asked that I thank you for your cooperation in this and other matters and to tell you that he would appreciate your response as expeditiously as possible.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "James T. Kendall". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "J" and a long, sweeping underline.

James T. Kendall  
Chief Counsel  
Preparedness Investigating  
Subcommittee